

**Draft Summary of the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group Meeting
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)
July 10, 2001**

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) hosted a meeting for the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group on July 10, 2001 in Oroville.

A summary of the discussion, decisions made, and action items is provided below. This summary is not intended to be a transcript, analysis of the meeting, or to indicate agreement or disagreement with any of the items summarized, except where expressly stated. The intent is to present a summary of the discussion for information purposes for interested parties who could not attend the meeting.

Introduction

Attendees were welcomed to the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group meeting and objectives were discussed. The meeting agenda and list of meeting attendees with their affiliations are appended to this summary as Attachments 1 and 2, respectively. Meeting flip chart notes are included as Attachment 3.

Action Items – June 12, 2001 Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group Meeting

A summary of the June 12, 2001 Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group is posted on the relicensing web site. The Facilitator reviewed the status of action items from the June 12, 2001 meeting as follows:

Action Item #LU13: Determine if Noise is an Aesthetics issue and if not, where it will be covered.
Status: Steve Nachtman of the Consulting Team offered the following definitions for aesthetics:

1. Evaluation and considerations of the sensory quality of resources (sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch) and especially with respect to judgement about their pleasurable qualities.
2. Pertaining to the quality of human perceptual experience (including sight, sound, smell, touch, taste, and movement) evoked by phenomena or elements or configurations of elements in the environment.

The Land Use, Land Management, and Aesthetics Work Group agreed that sound was a component of aesthetics and any issues raised related to noise should be discussed within the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group.

Action Item #LU14: Prepare draft Existing Information and Information Needs for each Issue Statement and distribute for review and comment to the Land Use, Land Management, and Aesthetics Work Group.

Status: A review of the revised Issue Sheets is part of this agenda.

Carryover Action Items

Action Item #LU6: Provide definitions of Issue Sheet and other commonly used terms and examples to the Land Use, Land Management, and Aesthetics Work Group.

Status: Steve Nachtman of the consulting team reported that similar requests have been made in other work groups, so the task of developing definitions for the Land Use, Land Management, and Aesthetics Work Group has a larger goal of producing definitions for use by all work groups. The Resource Area Managers (RAM) are addressing this and Steve indicated the definitions should be available to the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group at their next meeting.

- Action Item #LU8:** Investigate development of a project map that shows land ownership and land use designations for project and nearby lands.
- Status:** A demonstration of DWR's relicensing Geographic Information System, including the information requested by the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group is part of this agenda.
- Action Item #LU9:** Provide the Land Use, Land Management, and Aesthetics Work Group with the Process Graphic.
- Status:** The Facilitator reported that the process graphics are undergoing revisions and will be made available to all the work groups once the revisions are complete.

Oroville Facilities Relicensing Newsletter

The Facilitator reported that the first edition of the Oroville Facilities Relicensing Newsletter had recently been published and described its content. She added that the newsletter had been distributed to everyone who had signed in during a Plenary, Work Group or Public meeting during the relicensing effort, as well as all property owners adjacent to the Oroville Facilities. She informed the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group that anyone could be added to the newsletter mailing list by calling or e-mailing DWR (1-866-820-8198 or orovillep2100@water.ca.gov). Participants agreed that having copies available at locations in town (Chamber of Commerce, Butte County, library, etc.) would be a good idea.

Geographic Information System (GIS)

In response to the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group request for a map showing land ownership and land use designations for project and nearby lands, Bill Mendenhall from DWR provided an update to the group on the status of the GIS being developed to support the relicensing effort. He mentioned that DWR had initially created the GIS based on readily available data sets from a variety of local, regional, state, and federal sources. Since then, DWR has identified potential data sets that might be added to the GIS. A handout describing the existing and potential data sets was provided to the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group and is appended to this summary as Attachment 4.

Bill stressed that the work groups needed to provide the DWR GIS team with guidance regarding the types of information that would facilitate the study process. He said that it was important for participants to be proactive in identifying their information needs, allowing the DWR GIS team to respond to their requests. He asked that any data requests or database suggestions be channeled through the work groups' Resource Area Manager (RAM). Jim Martin is the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics RAM. Bill suggested that participants think about key questions when developing data sets:

- How can this data work together with existing data?
- What projection should the data be created in?
- Will the data be made available to the public or other agencies?
- What questions will this data answer?

Bill concluded that careful coordination between the work groups and the DWR GIS team can help answer these questions, and make the GIS an integral tool in managing and evaluating data for the relicensing effort.

Bill provided the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group with a demonstration of the capabilities of the current GIS, showing various data layers. He stressed that GIS is not a static map-making program though maps are often a product of GIS, but rather a dynamic system. Bill mentioned that the GIS would be available on the Internet to participants and the public,

providing different features depending on the user skill level. DWR plans to have web-based GIS available to the public in September 2001.

- One participant asked what types of information were currently available in the DWR GIS. Bill mentioned that the DWR GIS team had accumulated information from a variety of sources including Butte County parcel information, USGS quads, riparian vegetation maps from CSU Chico, and information from studies being conducted by DWR.
- One participant asked if any information was lost when USGS maps are digitized. Bill responded that the USGS map information in the GIS had been received digitally directly from USGS. He added that the DWR GIS team checks data for accuracy and compatibility with existing data prior to inputting it into the GIS. He demonstrated how data sets within the GIS from a variety of sources are identified to original source data.

Issue Sheet Development

The Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group revised Resource Goals and Geographic Scope for the Aesthetics issue sheets. Additionally, participants reviewed the suggested revisions prepared by the consultants for Existing Information and Information Needs. The draft Issue Sheets reviewed and revised by participants at this meeting are appended to this summary as Attachment 5.

- The Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group discussed whether they should be revising the resource goals proposed by individuals not present at the meeting. Mike Mainz with California Department of Fish and Game indicated that Environmental Task Force participants removed and altered resource goals during their latest meeting only after the individual who developed the resource goal consented. The Facilitator added that the Engineering and Operations Task Force had identified Issue Statements where information was already available and therefore did not require additional study and that one Issue Statement is being resolved under current maintenance and license. The Work Group agreed that these were viable options for addressing issue sheets.
- The Facilitator reminded the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group that the issue sheet development process was separate from the Scoping process. After submitting the Issue Statements to the Plenary Group for Scoping Document 1, participants were now free to alter the content of the Issue Sheets however it helped them in crafting clear, focused study plans. In fact, development of an Issue Sheet may lead to the determination that enough information exists to address the question and a study plan is thus not needed. A large part of the work ahead of the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group for the rest of the year is to determine if a question requires study and if so, what does that study look like.
- Steve Nachtman suggested a Task Force be formed to work with the consultants to expand the Existing Information and Information Needs for each Issue Sheet, then distribute the revised Issue Sheets to the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group for review at their next meeting. The Work Group felt that the number of regular participants was small enough to effectively work directly with the consultants without the benefit of a Task Force. A participant suggested that the consulting team take the lead in developing information for the Issue Sheets. The consultants were tasked with expanding as appropriate, existing information and information needs sections for each Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group Issue Sheet. The Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group agreed to assist the consultants by providing additional information for the Issue Sheets to Jim Martin via e-mail at jimm@water.ca.gov or via fax, 916-227-7554 on or before July 18. The consulting team will expand the Issue Sheets, incorporate comments and distribute revised Issue Sheets to the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group on or before August 9.

Additionally, the Facilitator agreed to distribute the draft Issue Sheets with revisions from this meeting to the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group by July 11, 2001.

Next Meeting

The Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group agreed to meet on:

Date: Tuesday, August 14, 2001
Time: 6 to 10 PM
Location: To be determined

Agreements Made

1. The Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group agreed to request that additional newsletter copies be made available at various locations in town (Chamber of Commerce, Butte County, library, etc).
2. The Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group agreed to provide additional information for the Issue Sheets to Jim Martin via e-mail at jimm@water.ca.gov or via fax, 916-227-7554 on or before July 18.
3. The Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group agreed to review information provided on the DWR GIS and provide comment as required to the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group RAM.
4. The Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group agreed to meet again on August 14, 2001 from 6 PM to 10 PM (location to be determined).

Action Items

The following list of action items identified by the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group includes a description of the action, the participant responsible for the action, and item status.

Action Item #LU15: Include the definitions of aesthetics offered by the consultant to comply with action item #LU13 to determine if noise is an aesthetics issue in July 10, 2001 Land Use, Land Management, and Aesthetics Work Group Summary notes.

Responsible: Consulting Team
Due Date: July 31, 2001

Definition of Aesthetics:

1. Evaluation and considerations of the sensory quality of resources (sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch) and especially with respect to judgement about their pleasurable qualities.
2. Pertaining to the quality of human perceptual experience (including sight, sound, smell, touch, taste, and movement) evoked by phenomena or elements or configurations of elements in the environment.

Action Item #LU16: Augment the Existing Information and Information Needs portion of the Issue Sheets. Distribute to Land Use, Land Management, and Aesthetics Work Group for discussion at August 14 meeting.

Responsible: Consulting Team, DWR, Work Group
Due Date: August 9, 2001

Action Item #LU17: Provide additional copies of the Oroville Facilities Relicensing Newsletter to various locations throughout Oroville as requested.

Responsible: DWR
Due Date: On-going